

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

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EXT. 29552 8/17/73

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R 172243Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KABUL

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 164400

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AF, PK, IR

SUBJECT: AFGHAN RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBORS

REF: KABUL 6119, 6054, 6030

FOR AMBASSADOR

1. APPRECIATE YOUR REPORTING ON AFGHAN INTERNAL POLITICAL SITUATION AND GOA ATTITUDES TOWARD NEIGHBORS EXPRESSED IN DAUD AND NAIM CONVERSATIONS WITH SENATOR PERCY. WE FIND DAUD'S ATTITUDES DISQUIETING, BOTH ON PUSHTUNISTAN AND HELMAND WATERS ISSUES, AND TAKE SMALL COMFORT IN FACT THAT HE IS REQUESTING USG'S "GOOD OFFICES" TO PREVENT DETERIORATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN.

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2. IT APPEARS LIKELY FROM HERE THAT DAUD IS PROPELLED BY INTERNAL POLITICAL FORCES TO TAKE EARLY ACTION ON PUSHTUNISTAN ISSUE AND THAT ASKING HELP OF US, IRAN AND USSR IS MINIMUM RESPONSE HE FEELS REQUIRED TO STAY ON TOP OF SITUATION. BELIEVE, THEREFORE, WE SHOULD APPEAR RESPONSIVE AND FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE TO HIS REQUEST, WHILE RECOGNIZING REAL LIMITATIONS ON HOW MUCH WE CAN ACTUALLY DO TO AMELIORATE PROBLEM.

3. YOU SHOULD SEEK EARLY APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT TO INFORM HIM THAT WE ARE ADVISING GOP BOTH IN ISLAMABAD AND THROUGH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON OF AFGHAN CONCERN OVER ARRESTS OF NAP LEADERS. WE ARE COUNSELLING GOP TO EXERCISE RESTRAINT IN DEALING WITH NWFP AND BALUCHISTANI LEADERS. AT SAME TIME WE URGE SIMILAR ATTITUDE OF RESTRAINT ON PART OF GOA UNTIL ACCOMMODATION CAN BE WORKED OUT BETWEEN PARTIES IN PAKISTAN.

4. YOU SHOULD ALSO STRESS THAT USG, IN DISCUSSING THIS MATTER WITH DAUD AND WITH GOP, DOES SO OUT OF OUR LONG-TERM INTEREST IN PROMOTING STABILITY, PEACE AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION IN REGION. WE BELIEVE THAT THESE OBJECTIVES REQUIRE THAT PAKISTAN AND AFGHANISTAN FIND WAYS BILATERALLY TO ASSURE THAT PEACEFUL RELATIONS ARE STRENGTHENED BETWEEN THEM. FYI: WE DO NOT WANT TO GET INTO MIDDLE OF THIS SITUATION. END FYI

5. ALONG LINES OF SISCO CONVERSATION WITH MALIKYAR (STATE 156044), YOU SHOULD NOTE THAT US HAS HAD LONG-TERM INTEREST AND COMMITMENT IN DEVELOPMENT OF AFGHAN ECONOMY. WE BELIEVE OUR EFFORTS (AND THOSE OF OTHER DONORS) ARE JEOPARDIZED BY THREAT OF DETERIORATION IN RELATIONS OF AFGHANISTAN WITH BOTH IRAN AND PAKISTAN. POLICY OF CONFRONTATION, RATHER THAN COOPERATION, WOULD ONLY INCREASE ECONOMIC ISOLATION OF AFGHANISTAN, WOULD SET BACK ITS TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS AND INCREASE DEPENDENCE ON USSR. USG BELIEVES THAT BOTH IRAN AND PAKISTAN WOULD RESPOND FAVORABLY TO AFGHANISTAN'S DEVELOPMENT NEEDS IF GOA EXTENDS HAND OF FRIENDSHIP AND ATTEMPTS TO WORK OUT POLITICAL DIFFERENCES IN THIS SPIRIT. WE ARE PARTICULARLY HOPEFUL THAT GOA WILL NOT

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RPT NOT MOVE BACK FROM POSITIVE AND PROMISING POSITION PREVIOUS GOVT HAD TAKEN ON HELMAND WATERS TREATY.

6. ALTHOUGH WE RECOGNIZE IT DIFFICULT TO DISSUADE DAUD FROM TAKING ACTION HE FEELS NECESSARY TO REMAIN IN POWER, WE BELIEVE IT NECESSARY TO REGISTER OUR STRONG CONCERN IN ORDER PREVENT PRECIPITOUS ACTION, WHICH, ONCE BEGUN, WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO STOP. WE WELCOME YOUR COMMENTS AND

SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO DEAL WITH SITUATION. ROGERS

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